

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, before the first line, with the following:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/000,062, filed on May 29, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,338,961, which was a national stage filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/FR96/01109, filed on July 17, 1996, ~~which International Application was not published by the International Bureau in English on ____.~~